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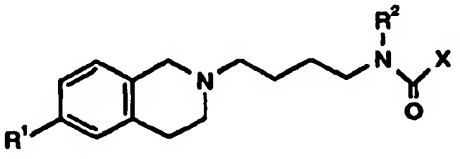
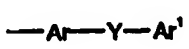
(57) Abstract



(I)



(a)

(b)

Compounds of formula (I) wherein R^1 represents a substituent selected from: a hydrogen or halogen atom; a hydroxy, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy, pentafluorethyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, arylC_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyloxy, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, arylsulphonyl, arylsulphonyloxy, arylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonamido, C_{1-4}alkylamido, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, arylsulphonamido, arylcarboxamido, arylsulphonamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, arylcarboxamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, aroyl, aroylC_{1-4}alkyl, or arylC_{1-4}alkanoyl group; a group $R^3OCO(CH_2)_p$, $R^3CON(R^4)(CH_2)_p$, $R^3R^4NCO(CH_2)_p$ or $R^3R^4NSO_2(CH_2)_p$, where each of R^3 and R^4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}alkyl group or R^3R^4 forms part of a C_{3-6}azacyloalkane or C_{3-6}(2-oxo)azacycloalkane ring and p represents zero or an integer form 1 to 4; or a group Ar^3–Z, wherein Ar^3 represents an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclic ring and Z represents a bond, O, S, or CH_2; R^2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}alkyl group; X represents a group of formula (a) or (b), wherein Ar and Ar^1 each independently represent an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclic ring; and Y represents a bond, –NHCO–, –CONH–, $–CH_2–$, or $–(CH_2)_mY^1(CH_2)_n–$, wherein Y^1 represents O, S, SO_2, or Co and m and n each represent zero or 1 such that the sum of m+n is zero or 1; Ar^2 represents an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered aromatic heterocyclic ring; or an optionally substituted bicyclic ring system; and salts thereof. Compounds of formula (I) and their salts have affinity for dopamine receptors, in particular the D_3 receptor, and thus potential in the treatment of conditions wherein modulation of the D_3 receptor is beneficial, e.g. as antipsychotic agents.

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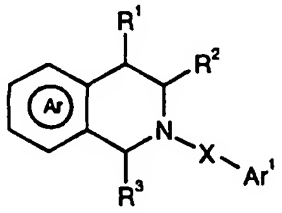
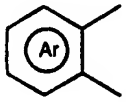
SUBSTITUTED TETRAHYDRO ISOQUINOLINES AS MODULATORS OF DOPAMINE D3 RECEPTORS

The present invention relates to novel tetrahydroisoquinoline derivatives, processes for their preparation, pharmaceutical compositions containing them and their use in therapy, as modulators of dopamine D_3 receptors, in particular as antipsychotic agents.

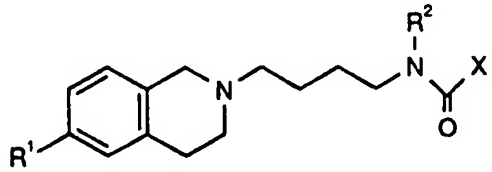
US Patent No. 5,294,621 describes tetrahydropyridine derivatives of the formula:



wherein  is an optionally substituted thienyl or optionally substituted phenyl ring; R^1, R^2 and R^3 are each *inter alia* hydrogen; X is *inter alia* $(CH_2)mNR^7CO$; m is 2-4; and Ar^1 is an optionally substituted heterocyclic ring or an optionally substituted phenyl ring. The compounds are said to be useful as antiarrhythmic agents.

We have now found a class of tetrahydroisquinoline derivatives which have affinity for dopamine receptors, in particular the D_3 receptor, and thus potential in the treatment of conditions wherein modulation of the D_3 receptor is beneficial, eg as antipsychotic agents.

In a first aspect the present invention provides compounds of formula (I) :



Formula (I)

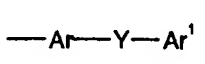
wherein:

R^1 represents a substituent selected from: a hydrogen or halogen atom; a hydroxy, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy, pentafluoroethyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, arylC_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyloxy, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, arylsulphonyl, arylsulphonyloxy, arylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonamido, C_{1-4}alkylamido, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamidoC_{1-4}alkyl,

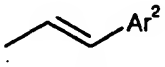
arylsulphonamido, arylcarboxamido, arylsulphonamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, arylcarboxamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, aroyl, aroylC_{1-4}alkyl, or arylC_{1-4}alkanoyl group; a group $R^3OCO(CH_2)_p$, $R^3CON(R^4)(CH_2)_p$, $R^3R^4NCO(CH_2)_p$ or $R^3R^4NSO_2(CH_2)_p$ where each of R^3 and R^4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}alkyl group or R^3R^4 forms part of a C_{3-6}azacyloalkane or C_{3-6}(2-oxo)azacycloalkane ring and p represents zero or an integer from 1 to 4; or a group Ar^3-Z, wherein Ar^3 represents an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aromatic heterocyclic ring and Z represents a bond, O, S , or CH_2;

R^2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}alkyl group;

X represents a group of the formula (a) or (b):



(a)



(b)

wherein

Ar and Ar^1 each independently represent an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aromatic heterocyclic ring; and

Y represents a bond, -NHCO-, -CONH-, $-CH_2-$, or $-(CH_2)_mY^1(CH_2)_n-$, wherein Y^1 represents O, S, SO_2, or CO and m and n each represent zero or 1 such that the sum of m+n is zero or 1;

Ar^2 represents an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aromatic heterocyclic ring; or an optionally substituted bicyclic ring system;

and salts thereof.

In the compounds of formula (I) above an alkyl group or moiety may be straight or branched. Alkyl groups which may be employed include methyl, ethyl, n-propyl, n-butyl, n-pentyl, n-hexyl and any branched isomers thereof such as isopropyl, t-butyl, sec-pentyl, and the like.

Examples of compounds of formula (I) include those in which Ar^2 is a bicyclic aromatic or heteroaromatic ring system and in which R^1 is other than pentafluoroethyl.

When R^1 represents an arylC_{1-4}alkoxy, arylsulphonyl, arylsulphonyloxy, arylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, arylsulphonamido, arylcarboxamido, arylsulphonamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, arylcarboxamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, aroyl, aroylC_{1-4}alkyl, or arylC_{1-4}alkanoyl group, the aryl moiety may be selected from an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic ring. In the group R^1 an aryl moiety may be optionally substitued by one or more substituents selected from hydrogen, halogen, amino, cyano, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamino, C_{1-4}dialkylamino, C_{1-4}alkylamido, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, or R^5R^6NCO where each of R^5 and R^6 independently represents a hydrogen atom or C_{1-4}alkyl group.

A halogen atom present in the compounds of formula (I) may be fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine.

An optionally substituted 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic aromatic ring, as defined for any of the groups Ar, Ar^1, Ar^2 or Ar^3 may contain from 1 to 4 heteroatoms selected from O, N or S. When the ring contains 2-4 heteroatoms, one is preferably selected from O, N and S and the remaining heteroatoms are preferably N. Examples of 5 and 6-membered heterocyclic groups include furyl, thienyl, pyrrolyl, oxazolyl, thiazolyl, imidazolyl, oxadiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, pyridyl, triazolyl, triazinyl, pyridazyl, pyrimidinyl and pyrazolyl.

Examples of bicyclic, for example bicyclic aromatic or heteroaromatic, ring systems for Ar^2 include naphthyl, indazolyl, indolyl, benzofuranyl, benzothienyl, benzothiazolyl, benzimidazolyl, benzoxazolyl, benzisoxazolyl, benzisothiazolyl, quinolinyl, quinoxolinyl, quinazolinyl,cinnolinyl, isoquinolinyl, pyrazolo[1,5-a]pyrimidyl, pyrrolo[3,2-b]pyridyl, pyrrolo[3,2-c]pyridyl, thieno[3,2-b]thiophenyl, 1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-quinolinyl, 2,3-dihydro-3-oxo-4*H*-benzoxazinyl, 1,2-dihydro-2-oxo-3H-indolyl.

The rings Ar, Ar^1, or Ar^2 may each independently be optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from: a hydrogen or halogen atom, or a hydroxy, oxo, cyano, nitro, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylenedioxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphinyl, C_{1-4}alkylthio, $R^7SO_2N(R^8)$-, $R^7R^8NSO_2$-, R^7R^8N-, R^7R^8NCO-,or $R^7CON(R^8)$- group wherein each of R^7 and R^8 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4} alkyl group, or R^7R^8 together form a C_{3-6} alkylene chain.

Alternatively, Ar^1 and Ar^2 may be optionally substituted by one or more 5- or 6-membered heterocyclic rings, as defined above, optionally substituted by a C_{1-2} alkyl or R^7R^8N- group; wherein R^7 and R^8 are as defined above.

In the rings Ar^1 and Ar^2 substituents positioned *ortho* to one another may be linked to form a 5- or 6- membered ring.

It will be appreciated that for use in medicine the salts of formula (I) should be physiologically acceptable. Suitable physiologically acceptable salts will be apparent to those skilled in the art and include for example acid addition salts formed with inorganic acids eg. hydrochloric, hydrobromic, sulphuric, nitric or phosphoric acid; and organic acids eg. succinic, maleic, acetic, fumaric, citric, tartaric, benzoic, p-toluenesulphonic, methanesulphonic or naphthalenesulphonic acid. Other non-physiologically acceptable salts eg. oxalates, may be used, for example in the isolation of compounds of formula (I) and are included within the scope of this invention. Also included within the scope of the invention are solvates and hydrates of compounds of formula (I).

Certain of the compounds of formula (I) may form acid addition salts with one or more equivalents of the acid. The present invention includes within its scope all possible stoichiometric and non-stoichiometric forms.

For compounds of formula (I) where A represents a group (b), *trans* geometry of the double bond is preferred.

In compounds of formula (I), it is preferred that R^1 represents a substituent selected from: a halogen atom, methyl, cyano, trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy, trifluoromethyl, pentafluoroethyl, or trifluoromethoxy group.

It is also preferred that the rings Ar, Ar^1, or Ar^2 are each independently optionally substituted by one or more substituents selected from: a hydrogen or halogen atom, cyano, methoxy, methylenedioxy, acetyl, acetylamino, methylsulfonyl, methylsulfonyloxy, methylaminosulfonyl, methylsulfonylamino, or methylaminocarbonyl group.

Certain of the substituted heteroaromatic ring systems included in compounds of formula (I) may exist in one or more tautomeric forms. The present invention includes within its scope all such tautomeric forms, including mixtures.

Particular compounds according to the invention include :

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(2-Naphthyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Benzimidazolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Cyano-2-(4-(3-(5-indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Cyano-2-(4-(3-(5-benzimidazolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(2-naphthyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(2-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(6-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(5-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(2-naphthylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(3-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(6-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-(3-Acetyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-6-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

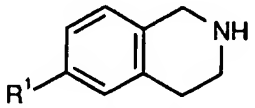
(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(6-(2-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(2-methyl)-1H-benzimidazolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(1-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline
2-(4-(4-(4-Acetylphenyl)benzoylamino)butyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline
6-Methoxy-2-(4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline
6-Hydroxy-2-(4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline
2-(4-(4-Phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-6-trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline and salts thereof.

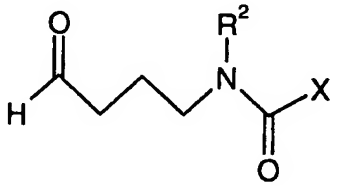
The present invention also provides a process for preparing compounds of formula (I) which process comprises :

(a) reacting a compound of formula (II):



Formula (II)

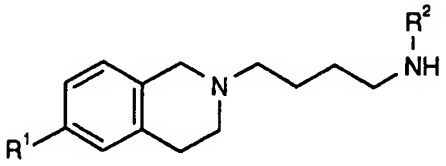
wherein R^1 and q are as hereinbefore defined;
with a compound of formula (III):



Formula (III)

wherein R^2 and X are as hereinbefore defined;

(b) reaction of a compound of formula (IV):



Formula (IV)

wherein R^1 and R^2 are as hereinbefore defined;

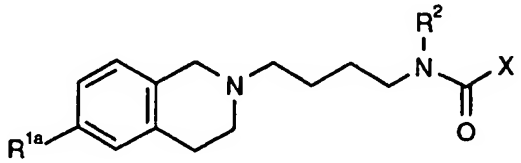
with a compound of formula (V):

XCOL

Formula (V)

wherein X is as hereinbefore defined and L is a halogen atom or the residue of an activated ester;

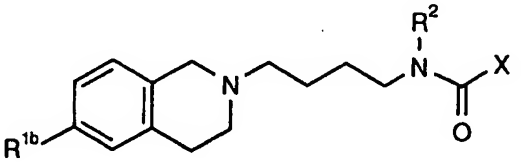
(c) to prepare a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 is Ar^3-Z and Z is a bond, reacting a compound of formula (VI):



Formula (VI)

wherein R^{1a} represents a group W wherein W is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group, or W is a group M selected from a boron derivative e.g. a boronic acid function $B(OH)_2$ or a metal function such as trialkylstannyl e.g. $SnBu_3$, zinc halide or magnesium halide; with a compound Ar^3-W^1, wherein W^1 is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group when W is a group M or W^1 is a group M when W is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group;

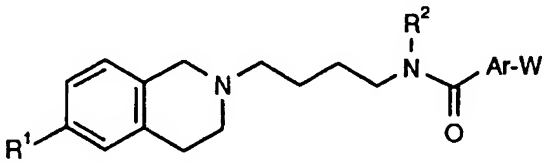
(d) to prepare a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 is Ar^3-Z and Z is O or S, reacting a compound of formula (VII):



Formula (VII)

wherein R^{1b} represents a group ZH; with a reagent serving to introduce the group Ar^3;

(e) to prepare a compound of formula (I) where X represents the group -Ar-Y-Ar^1 and Y is a bond, reaction of a compound of formula (VIII):



Formula (VIII)

wherein R^1, R^2, Ar and W are as hereinbefore defined, with a compound Ar^1-W^1, wherein W^1 is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group when W is a group M, or W^1 is a group M when W is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group.

(f) interconversion of one compound of formula (I) to a different compound of formula (I) e.g. (i) alkylation of a compound (I) wherein R^2 represents hydrogen, (ii) conversion of one R^1 from alkoxy (e.g.methoxy) to hydroxy, or (iii) conversion of R^1 from hydroxy to sulphonyloxy, eg alkylsulphonyloxy or trifluoromethanesulphonyloxy; (iv) conversion of a compound wherein Y represents S to a compound wherein Y is SO_2 or (v) conversion of Y from CO to CH_2;
and optionally thereafter forming a salt of formula (I).

Process (a) requires the presence of a reducing agent. Suitable reducing agents which may be employed include sodium borohydride, cyanoborohydride or triacetoxyborohydride under acidic conditions, or catalytic hydrogenation. The reaction may conveniently be effected in a solvent such as ethanol or dichloroethane.

Process (b) may be effected by methods well known in the art for formation of an amide bond.

Reaction of a compound of formula (VI) with Ar^3W^1, according to process (c) or a compound of formula (VIII) with Ar^1-W^1 according to process (e) may be effected in the presence of a transition metal eg palladium catalyst such as *bis*-triphenylphosphinepalladium dichloride or *tetrakis*-triphenylphosphinepalladium (0). When M represents a boronic acid function such as $B(OH)_2$the reaction may be carried out under basic conditions, for example using aqueous sodium carbonate in a suitable solvent such as dioxane. When M is trialkylstannyl the reaction may be carried out in an inert solvent, such as xylene or dioxane optionally in the presence of LiCl. When M is a zinc or magnesium halide the reaction may be effected in an aprotic solvent such as tetrahydrofuran. The substituent W is preferably a halogen atom such as bromine, or a sulphonyloxy group such as trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy; and W^1 is preferably a goup M, such as trialkylstannyl or $B(OH)_2$.

In process (d) the reagent serving to introduce the group Ar^3 is preferably a compound of formula Ar^3-Hal, wherein Hal is a halogen atom. The reaction may be effected in the presence of a base, such as potassium carbonate, in a solvent such as dimethylformamide.

Interconversion reactions according to process (f) may be effected using methods well known in the art.

Compounds of formula (II) may be prepared by methods known in the art.

Compounds of formula (III) are known or may be prepared using standard procedures.

A compound of formula (IV) may be prepared by alkylation of a compound (II) by standard methods. Thus, for example a compound of formula (II) may be reacted

with N-(4-bromobutylphthalimide) followed by removal of the phthalimide group to give a compound of formula (IV) where R^2 is hydrogen. Compounds where R^2 is alkyl may be prepared by subsequent reaction with the appropriate aldehyde using conditions analogous to process (a) above.

Compounds of formula (VI), (VII) or (VIII) may be prepared by processes analogous to (a) or (b) described above. Compounds Ar^1W^1, Ar^3W^1 and Ar^3Hal are commercially available or may be prepared by standard methods.

Compounds of formula (I) have been found to exhibit affinity for dopamine receptors, in particular the D_3 receptor, and are expected to be useful in the treatment of disease states which require modulation of such receptors, such as psychotic conditions. Compounds of formula (I) have also been found to have greater affinity for dopamine D_3 than for D_2 receptors. The therapeutic effect of currently available antipsychotic agents (neuroleptics) is generally believed to be exerted via blockade of D_2 receptors; however this mechanism is also thought to be responsible for undesirable extrapyramidal side effects (eps) associated with many neuroleptic agents. Without wishing to be bound by theory, it has been suggested that blockade of the recently characterised dopamine D_3 receptor may give rise to beneficial antipsychotic activity without significant eps. (see for example Sokoloff et al, Nature, 1990; 347: 146-151; and Schwartz et al, Clinical Neuropharmacology, Vol 16, No. 4, 295-314, 1993). Preferred compounds of the present invention are therefore those which have higher affinity for dopamine D_3 than dopamine D_2 receptors (such affinity can be measured using standard methodology for example using cloned dopamine receptors). Said compounds may advantageously be used as selective modulators of D_3 receptors.

We have found that certain compounds of formula (I) are dopamine D_3 receptor antagonists, others may be agonists and partial agonists. The functional activity of compounds of the invention (i.e. whether they are antagonists, agonists or partial agonists) can be readily determined using the test method described hereinafter, which does not require undue experimentation. D_3 antagonists are of potential use as antipsychotic agents for example in the treatment of schizophrenia, schizo-affective disorders, psychotic depression, mania, paranoid and delusional disorders. Conditions which may be treated by dopamine D_3 receptor agonists include dyskinetic disorders such as Parkinson's disease, neuroleptic-induced parkinsonism and tardive dyskinesias; depression; anxiety, memory disorders, sexual dysfunction and drug (eg. cocaine) dependency.

In a further aspect therefore the present invention provides a method of treating conditions which require modulation of dopamine D_3 receptors, for example psychoses such as schizophrenia, which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

The invention also provides the use of a compound of formula (I) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the

treatment of conditions which require modulation of dopamine D_3 receptors, for example psychoses such as schizophrenia.

A preferred use for D_3 antagonists according to the present invention is in the treatment of psychoses such as schizophrenia.

A preferred use for D_3 agonists according to the present invention is in the treatment of dyskinetic disorders such as Parkinson's disease.

For use in medicine, the compounds of the present invention are usually administered as a standard pharmaceutical composition. The present invention therefore provides in a further aspect pharmaceutical compositions comprising a novel compound of formula (I) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof and a physiologically acceptable carrier.

The compounds of formula (I) may be administered by any convenient method, for example by oral, parenteral, buccal, sublingual, nasal, rectal or transdermal administration and the pharmaceutical compositions adapted accordingly.

The compounds of formula (I) and their physiologically acceptable salts which are active when given orally can be formulated as liquids or solids, for example syrups, suspensions or emulsions, tablets, capsules and lozenges.

A liquid formulation will generally consist of a suspension or solution of the compound or physiologically acceptable salt in a suitable liquid carrier(s) for example an aqueous solvent such as water, ethanol or glycerine, or a non-aqueous solvent, such as polyethylene glycol or an oil. The formulation may also contain a suspending agent, preservative, flavouring or colouring agent.

A composition in the form of a tablet can be prepared using any suitable pharmaceutical carrier(s) routinely used for preparing solid formulations. Examples of such carriers include magnesium stearate, starch, lactose, sucrose and cellulose.

A composition in the form of a capsule can be prepared using routine encapsulation procedures. For example, pellets containing the active ingredient can be prepared using standard carriers and then filled into a hard gelatin capsule; alternatively, a dispersion or suspension can be prepared using any suitable pharmaceutical carrier(s), for example aqueous gums, celluloses, silicates or oils and the dispersion or suspension then filled into a soft gelatin capsule.

Typical parenteral compositions consist of a solution or suspension of the compound or physiologically acceptable salt in a sterile aqueous carrier or parenterally acceptable oil, for example polyethylene glycol, polyvinyl pyrrolidone, lecithin, arachis oil or sesame oil. Alternatively, the solution can be lyophilised and then reconstituted with a suitable solvent just prior to administration.

Compositions for nasal administration may conveniently be formulated as aerosols, drops, gels and powders. Aerosol formulations typically comprise a solution or fine suspension of the active substance in a physiologically acceptable aqueous or non-aqueous solvent and are usually presented in single or multidose quantities in sterile form in a sealed container, which can take the form of a cartridge or refill for use with an atomising device. Alternatively the sealed container may be a unitary dispensing device

such as a single dose nasal inhaler or an aerosol dispenser fitted with a metering valve which is intended for disposal once the contents of the container have been exhausted. Where the dosage form comprises an aerosol dispenser, it will contain a propellant which can be a compressed gas such as compressed air or an organic propellant such as a fluoro-chlorohydrocarbon. The aerosol dosage forms can also take the form of a pump-atomiser.

Compositions suitable for buccal or sublingual administration include tablets, lozenges and pastilles, wherein the active ingredient is formulated with a carrier such as sugar and acacia, tragacanth, or gelatin and glycerin.

Compositions for rectal administration are conveniently in the form of suppositories containing a conventional suppository base such as cocoa butter.

Compositions suitable for transdermal administration include ointments, gels and patches.

Preferably the composition is in unit dose form such as a tablet, capsule or ampoule.

Each dosage unit for oral administration contains preferably from 1 to 250 mg (and for parenteral administration contains preferably from 0.1 to 25 mg) of a compound of the formula (I) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof calculated as the free base.

The physiologically acceptable compounds of the invention will normally be administered in a daily dosage regimen (for an adult patient) of, for example, an oral dose of between 1 mg and 500 mg, preferably between 10 mg and 400 mg,e.g. between 10 and 250 mg or an intravenous, subcutaneous, or intramuscular dose of between 0.1 mg and 100 mg, preferably between 0.1 mg and 50 mg, e.g. between 1 and 25 mg of the compound of the formula (I) or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof calculated as the free base, the compound being administered 1 to 4 times per day. Suitably the compounds will be administered for a period of continuous therapy, for example for a week or more.

Biological Test Methods

The ability of the compounds to bind selectively to human D_3 dopamine receptors can be demonstrated by measuring their binding to cloned receptors. The inhibition constants (K_i) of test compounds for displacement of [^{125}I] iodosulpride binding to human D_3 dopamine receptors expressed in CHO cells were determined as follows. The cell lines were shown to be free from bacterial, fungal and mycoplasmal contaminants, and stocks of each were stored frozen in liquid nitrogen. Cultures were grown as monolayers or in suspension in standard cell culture media. Cells were recovered by scraping (from monolayers) or by centrifugation (from suspension cultures), and were washed two or three times by suspension in phosphate buffered saline followed by collection by centrifugation. Cell pellets were stored frozen at -40°C. Crude cell membranes were prepared by homogenisation followed by high-speed centrifugation, and characterisation of cloned receptors achieved by radioligand binding.

Preparation of CHO cell membranes

Cell pellets were gently thawed at room temperature, and resuspended in about 20 volumes of ice-cold 50 mM Tris salts (pH 7.4 @ 37°C), 20mM EDTA, 0.2 M sucrose. The suspension was homogenised using an Ultra-Turrax at full speed for 15 sec. The homogenate was centrifuged at 18,000 r.p.m for 20 min at 4°C in a Sorvall RC5C centrifuge. The membrane pellet was resuspended in ice-cold 50 mM Tris salts (pH 7.4 @ 37°C), using an Ultra-Turrax, and recentrifuged at 18,000 r.p.m for 15 min at 4°C in a Sorvall RC5C. The membranes were washed two more times with ice-cold 50 mM Tris salts (pH 7.4 @ 37°C). The final pellet was resuspended in 50 mM Tris salts (pH 7.4 @ 37°C), and the protein content determined using bovine serum albumin as a standard (Bradford, M. M. (1976) Anal. Biochem. 72, 248-254).

Binding experiments on cloned dopamine receptors

Crude cell membranes were incubated with 0.1 nM [^{125}I] iodosulpride (~2000 Ci/mmol; Amersham, U. K.), and the test compound in a buffer containing 50 mM Tris salts (pH 7.4 @ 37°C), 120 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 2 mM $CaCl_2$, 1 mM $MgCl_2$, 0.1% (w/v) bovine serum albumin, in a total volume of 1 ml for 30 min at 37°C. Following incubation, samples were filtered using a Brandel Cell Harvester, and washed three times with ice-cold 50 mM Tris salts (pH 7.4 @ 37°C), 120 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 2 mM $CaCl_2$, 1 mM $MgCl_2$. The radioactivity on the filters was measured using a Cobra gamma counter (Canberra Packard). Non-specific binding was defined as the radioligand binding remaining after incubation in the presence of 100 µM iodosulpride. For competition curves, 14 concentrations (half-log dilutions) of competing cold drug were used. Competition curves were analysed simultaneously whenever possible using non-linear least-squares fitting procedures, capable of fitting one, two or three site models.

Compounds of Examples tested according to this method had pKi values in the range 7.0 - 8.5 at the human cloned dopamine D_3 receptor.

Functional Activity at cloned dopamine receptors

The functional activity of compounds at human D2 and human D3 receptors (ie agonism or antagonism) may be determined using a Cytosensor Microphysiometer (McConnell HM et al Science 1992 257 1906-1912) In Microphysiometer experiments, cells (hD2_CHO or hD3_CHO) were seeded into 12mm Transwell inserts (Costar) at 300000 cells/cup in foetal calf serum (FCS)-containing medium. The cells were incubated for 6h at 37°C in 5%CO_2, before changing to FCS-free medium. After a further 16-18h, cups were loaded into the sensor chambers of the Cytosensor Microphysiometer (Molecular Devices) and the chambers perfused with running medium (bicarbonate-free Dulbecco's modified Eagles medium containing 2 mM glutamine and 44 mM NaCl) at a flow rate of 100 ul/min. Each pump cycle lasted 90s. The pump was on for the first 60s and the acidification rate determined between 68 and 88s, using the Cytosoft programme. Agonists and antagonists were diluted in running medium. In experiments to determine

agonist activity, cells were exposed (4.5 min for hD2, 7.5 min for hD3) to increasing concentrations of putative agonist at half hour intervals. Seven concentrations of agonist were used. Peak acidification rate to each agonist concentration was determined and concentration-response curves fitted using Robofit [Tilford, N.S., Bowen, W.P. & Baxter, G.S. Br. J. Pharmacol. (1995) in press]. In experiments to determine antagonist potency, cells were treated at 30 min intervals with five pulses of a submaximal concentration of quinpirole (100 nM for hD2 cells, 30 nM for hD3 cells), before exposure to the lowest concentration of putative antagonist. At the end of the next 30 min interval, cells were pulsed again with quinpirole (in the continued presence of the antagonist) before exposure to the next highest antagonist concentration. In all, five concentrations of antagonist were used in each experiment. Peak acidification rate to each agonist concentration was determined and concentration-inhibition curves fitted using Robofit.

Pharmaceutical Formulations

The following represent typical pharmaceutical formulations according to the present invention, which may be prepared using standard methods.

IV Infusion

Compound of formula (I)	1-40 mg
Buffer	to pH ca 7
Solvent/complexing agent	to 100 ml

Bolus Injection

Compound of formula (I)	1-40 mg
Buffer	to pH ca 7
Co-Solvent	to 5 ml

Buffer : Suitable buffers include citrate, phosphate, sodium hydroxide/hydrochloric acid.

Solvent : Typically water but may also include cyclodextrins (1-100 mg) and co-solvents such as propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol and alcohol.

Tablet

Compound	1 - 40 mg
Diluent/Filler *	50 - 250 mg
Binder	5 - 25 mg
Disentegrant *	5 - 50 mg
Lubricant	1 - 5 mg
Cyclodextrin	1 - 100 mg

* may also include cyclodextrins

Diluent : e.g. Microcrystalline cellulose, lactose, starch

Binder : e.g. Polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropymethylcellulose

Disintegrant : e.g. Sodium starch glycollate, crospovidone

Lubricant : e.g. Magnesium stearate, sodium stearyl fumarate.

Oral Suspension

Compound	1 - 40 mg
Suspending Agent	0.1 - 10 mg
Diluent	20 - 60 mg
Preservative	0.01 - 1.0 mg
Buffer	to pH ca 5 - 8
Co-solvent	0 - 40 mg
Flavour	0.01 - 1.0 mg
Colourant	0.001 - 0.1 mg

Suspending agent : e.g. Xanthan gum, microcrystalline cellulose

Diluent : e.g. sorbitol solution, typically water

Preservative : e.g. sodium benzoate

Buffer : e.g. citrate

Co-solvent : e.g. alcohol, propylene glycol, polyethylene glycol, cyclodextrin

The invention is further illustrated by the following non-limiting examples :

Description 1

(3-Trifluoromethoxy)phenylethylamine hydrochloride

To a stirred solution of zirconium (IV) chloride (11.8g, 49.5 mmol) in dry tetrahydrofuran (200ml) at 20°C under argon was added, portionwise, sodium borohydride (7.5g, 0.197 mol). Mixture was stirred for 1h, then 3-trifluoromethoxyphenylacetonitrile (4.2g, 20.9 mmol) was added. Stirring was continued for 24h, then water (110 ml) was added dropwise, keeping the internal temperature below 10°C. The mixture was partitioned between dilute aqueous ammonia (500ml) and ethyl acetate (4x100ml). Organic extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give an oil which was treated with ethereal HCl to give the title compound (2.1g, 50%).

Mass spectrum (API^+): Found 206 (MH^+). $C_9H_{10}F_3NO$ requires 205.

The following compounds were prepared in a similar manner to description 1.

(a) (3-Trifluoromethyl)phenethylamine hydrochloride

Mass spectrum (API^+): Found 190 (MH^+). $C_9H_{10}F_3N$ requires 189.

(b) (3-Bromo)phenethylamine hydrochloride

Mass spectrum (API^+): Found 200 (MH^+). $C_8H_{10}{}^{79}BrN$ requires 199.

Description 2

N-(2-(3-Trifluoromethoxyphenyl)ethyl)trifluoroacetamide

To a stirred mixture of (3-trifluoromethoxy)phenethylamine hydrochloride (5.85g, 24.2 mmol) and 2,6-lutidine (5.65ml; 5.19g, 48.6 mmol) in dichloromethane (100ml) at 0°C under argon was added, dropwise, trifluoroacetic anhydride (3.42ml, 5.08g, 24.2 mmol). Resultant was stirred at 20°C for 18h then partitioned between water (100ml) and dichloromethane (2x100ml). Organic phase was washed with 1M hydrochloric acid (100ml), saturated aqueous $NaHCO_3$ (100ml), dried (Na_2SO_4) then evaporated *in vacuo* to give the title compound (6.14g, 84%) as an oil.

Mass spectrum (API^+): Found 302 (MH^+). $C_{11}H_9F_6NO_2$ requires 301.

The following compounds were prepared in a similar manner to description 2.

(a) N-(2-(3-Trifluoromethylphenyl)ethyl)trifluoroacetamide

Mass spectrum (API^-): Found 284 $(M-H)^-$. $C_{11}H_9F_6NO$ requires 285.

(b) N-(2-(3-Bromophenyl)ethyl)trifluoroacetamide

Mass spectrum (API^-): Found 294 $(M-H)^-$. $C_{10}H_9{}^{79}BrF_3NO$ requires 295.

Description 3

6-Trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride

N-(2-(3-Trifluoromethoxyphenyl)ethyl)trifluoroacetamide (6.14g, 19.6mmol) was treated in a manner similar to that described in G.E. Stokker, Tetrahedron Letters 37 5453 1996. The resulting product (6.13g) was treated with anhydrous potassium carbonate (15.0g, 0.108mol) in methanol (140ml) containing water (22ml) at reflux for 2 h. The mixture was cooled, evaporated *in vacuo*, then partitioned between water (200ml) and dichloromethane (4x50ml). Combined organic extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give an oil (4.14g), which was treated with ethereal HCl. Recrystallisation of the resulting solid from ethanol gave the title compound (2.33g, 45%) as a colourless solid.

^{1}H NMR (DMSO-d_6) δ: 3.07 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 3.39 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 4.29 (2H, s), 7.27 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.32 (1H, s), 7.40 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 9.81 (2H, br s).

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 218 (MH^+). $C_{10}H_{10}F_3NO$ requires 217.

The following compounds were prepared in a similar manner to description 3.

(a) 6-Trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 202 (MH^+). $C_{10}H_{10}F_3N$ requires 201.

(b) 6-Bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride

^{1}H NMR (DMSO-d_6) δ: 3.08 (2H, t, J = 7Hz), 3.35 (2H, t, J = 7Hz), 4.23 (2H, s), 7.15 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.36 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.39 (1H, s).

Description 4

6-Cyano-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride

A solution of 6-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline hydrochloride (6.0g, 24 mmol) and triethylamine (7.4ml, 5.36g, 53 mmol) in dichloromethane (100ml) was treated with trifluoroacetic anhydride (3.7ml, 5.54g, 26.4 mmol) with ice cooling. Mixture was stirred at 20°C for 1.5h. then partitioned between saturated aqueous $NaHCO_3$ (250ml) and dichloromethane (3x50ml). Combined organic extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a solid (8.3g). A mixture of the latter with copper (I) cyanide (5.1g, 56.6 mmol) in 1-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone (100ml) was heated at reflux under argon for 4h, then cooled and partitioned between water (300ml), .880 aqueous ammonia (100ml) and dichloromethane (5x200ml). Combined organic extracts were

dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give an oil. The latter was dissolved in ether and treated with ethereal HCl to give the title compound (4.47g, 85%) as a colourless solid.

Mass spectrum (API+): Found 159 (MH^+). $C_{10}H_{10}N_2$ requires 158.

Description 5

(4-Trifluoroacetamido)butyraldehyde

To a solution of 4-aminobutyraldehyde diethyl acetal (16.10g, 0.10mmol) and triethylamine (18.06ml, 0.12mol) in dichloromethane (150ml) at 0°C was added a solution of trifluoroacetic anhydride (16.9ml, 0.11mol) in dichloromethane (60ml). The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature and stirred for 3h, then partitioned between 5% aq $NaHCO_3$ (400ml) and dichloromethane (400ml). The aqueous layer was extracted further with dichloromethane (3x100ml), the combined extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to afford a pale yellow oil which was added to a stirred mixture of THF (300ml) and water (500ml). 5N Sulfuric acid (2.27ml) was added and the reaction mixture left to stir at room temperature for 18h. Saturated aqueous sodium bicarbonate (500ml) was added and the product was extracted into dichloromethane (4x100ml). The combined organic extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to afford the title compound as a yellow oil (15.42g, 65%).

^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.95 (2H, m), 2.62 (2H, t, J = 8Hz), 3.38 (2H, m), 7.54 - 7.80 (1H, br s), 9.77 (1H, s).

Description 6

2-(4-Trifluoroacetamido)butyl-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

A mixture of 6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (1.98g, 9.1 mmol), (4-trifluoroacetamido)butyraldehyde (1.67g, 9.1 mmol), and sodium triacetoxyborohydride (2.87g, 13.7 mmol) in dichloroethane (40ml) was stirred at 20°C for 18h. Resultant was partitioned between saturated aqueous $NaHCO_3$ (200ml) and dichloromethane (3x50ml). Combined organic extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give an oil (3.6g). Chromatography on silica eluting with 30-100% ethyl acetate-hexane gave the title compound (2.97g, 85%) as an oil.

Mass spectrum (API+): Found 385 (MH^+). $C_{16}H_{18}F_6N_2O_2$ requires 384.

The following compounds were prepared in a similar manner to description 6

(a) 2-(4-Trifluoroacetamido)butyl-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 369 (MH$^+$). $C_{16}H_{18}F_6N_2O$ requires 368.

(b) 6-Cyano-2-(4-trifluoroacetamido)butyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 326 (MH$^+$). $C_{16}H_{18}F_3N_3O$ requires 325.

(c) 6-Bromo-2-(4-trifluoroacetamido)butyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 379 (MH$^+$). $C_{15}H_{18}{}^{79}BrF_3N_2O$ requires 378.

Description 7

2-(4-Aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

A mixture of 2-(4-trifluoroacetamido)butyl-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (2.94g, 7.7 mmol), anhydrous potassium carbonate (5.6g, 40.5 mmol), water (11ml) and methanol (70ml) was heated at reflux for 2h, cooled, then evaporated *in vacuo*. Residue was partitioned between water (50ml) and dichloromethane (4x50ml) and the combined extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) then evaporated *in vacuo* to give the title compound (2.14g, 97%) as an oil.

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 289 (MH$^+$). $C_{14}H_{19}F_3N_2O$ requires 288.

The following compounds were prepared using a method similar to description 7.

(a) 2-(4-Aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 273 (MH$^+$). $C_{14}H_{19}F_3N_2$ requires 272.

(b) 2-(4-Aminobutyl)-6-cyano-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 230 (MH$^+$). $C_{14}H_{19}N_3$ requires 229.

(c) 2-(4-Aminobutyl)-6-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 283 (MH$^+$). $C_{13}H_{19}{}^{79}BrN_2$ requires 282.

Description 8

N-(4-Hydroxybutyl)-4-phenylbenzamide

To a stirred solution of 4-amino-1-butanol (7.34g, 82 mmol) and triethylamine (12.3ml; 8.82g, 87 mmol) in dichloromethane (100ml) at 0°C was added a solution of 4-phenylbenzoyl chloride (18.36g, 85 mmol) in dichloromethane (800ml) dropwise over 1.2 h. Resultant was stirred at 0°C for 2h then at room temperature for 18h. The resulting white solid was filtered off (15.94g) and the filtrate washed with 5% aqueous sodium hydroxide (1L). The organic phase was dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a white solid (4.96g) which was combined with the above to give the title compound (20.9g, 93%).

^{1}H NMR (DMSO-d_6)δ: 1.4 - 1.7 (4H, m), 3.26 (2H, q, J =7Hz), 3.42 (2H, q, J=7Hz), 4.43 (1H, t, J=6Hz), 7.35 - 7.55 (3H, m), 7.75 (4H, m), 7.94 (2H, d, J=9Hz), 8.52 (1H, t, J=7Hz).

Description 9

4-(4-Phenylbenzoylamino)butyraldehyde

To a mechanically-stirred solution of N-(4-hydroxybutyl)-4-phenylbenzamide (11.2g, 44.2 mmol) and triethylamine (148ml; 107.5g, 1.06 mol) in dimethyl sulfoxide (250ml) at room temperature was added, dropwise over 1h, a solution of pyridine-sulfur trioxide complex (43.7g, 0.273mol) in dimethyl sulfoxide (200ml) with external cooling using a cold water bath. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 3h, then 2M hydrochloric acid (550ml) was added slowly with ice cooling. Resultant was diluted with water (1L) then extracted with ethyl acetate (3×500ml). The combined extracts were washed with 2M hydrochloric acid (3×500ml) and water (3×500ml) then dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a semi solid (12g). Chromatography on silica gel eluting with 10-100% ethyl acetate-hexane gave the title compound as a white solid (4.72g, 42%).

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 2.00 (2H, m), 2.65 (2H, m), 3.52 (2H, q, J=8Hz), 6.54 (1H, br m), 7.35-7.53 (3H, m), 7.54 - 7.71 (4H, m), 7.85 (2H, m), 9.83 (1H, s).

Description 10

6-Chloro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

A mixture of 4-chlorobenzaldehyde (22.47g, 0.16 mol) and ethanolamine (58.5g, 58.5ml, 0.96 mol) in methanol (320ml) and glacial acetic acid (60ml) was treated portionwise with sodium cyanoborohydride (6.05g, 0.096 mol). The mixture was stirred at room temperature, under an atmosphere of argon for 18h, and then evaporated *in vacuo*. The residues were dissolved in water (300ml), and acidified to pH4 using 5N HCl. The aqueous phase was washed with ether and then basified to pH11 using 10N NaOH and extracted into ether (2 x 200ml). The combined organic layers were dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a yellow oil, which was dissolved in ether and treated with 1M HCl in ether (1.1eq) and dried to give a white solid (27.47g).

The amine hydrochloride (20.15g, 91 mmol), ammonium chloride (3.51g, 66 mmol) and aluminium chloride (23.4g, 175 mmol) in a flask fitted with an overhead stirrer was immersed in an oil bath at 185°C. Further portions of aluminium chloride were added at 30 mins (11.8g, 88 mmol), 70 mins (23.6g, 177 mmol), 17 hours (20g, 150 mmol), and 40 hours (20g, 150 mmol). The reaction mixture was cooled in an ice/methanol bath, and ice added cautiously (~300ml), and then acidified using 5N HCl (50ml). The mixture was diluted with water (300ml), and further acidified using 5N HCl (150ml), and then basified with 50% NaOH (pH10). The mixture was extracted with ether (3 x 200ml), and the combined organic extracts were dried over Na_2SO_4 and evaporated *in vacuo* to give an oil (9.32g) which was purified by distillation to give a brown liquid (4.0g, 26%).

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 168 (MH^+). $C_9H_{10}{}^{35}ClN$ requires 167.

Example 1

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(2-Naphthyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

A mixture of 2-(4-aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (0.30g, 1.04 mmol), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide hydrochloride (0.199g, 1.04 mmol), (*E*)-3-(2-naphthyl)propenoic acid (0.206g, 1.04 mmol) and 1-hydroxybenzotriazole (0.02g) in dichloromethane was shaken at 20°C for 18h, then treated with saturated aqueous $NaHCO_3$. Shaking was continued for 0.2h, then the organic phase was separated. Chromatography of the organic phase on silica using 10-100% ethyl acetate - hexane gradient elution gave the title compound (0.266g, 55%) as a colourless solid.

Mass spectrum (API+): Found 469 (MH^+). $C_{27}H_{27}F_3N_2O_2$ requires 468.

^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.75 (4H, m), 2.59 (2H, m), 2.76 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 2.95 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 3.45 (2H, m), 3.66 (2H, s), 6.25 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.00 (3H, m), 7.34 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.48 (2H, m), 7.60 - 7.87 (6H, m).

The following compounds were prepared in a similar manner to Example 1

(a) (*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API+): Found 458 (MH^+). $C_{25}H_{26}F_3N_3O_2$ requires 457.

^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.70 (4H, m), 2.54 (2H, m), 2.73 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 2.94 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 3.43 (2H, m), 3.62 (2H, s), 6.15 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.54 (1H, m), 6.84 (1H, m), 7.00 (3H, m), 7.17 (2H, m), 7.26 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.61 (1H, s), 7.20 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 8.78 (1H, br s).

(b) (*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Benzimidazolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API+): Found 459 (MH^+). $C_{24}H_{25}F_3N_4O_2$ requires 458.

^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.72 (4H, m), 2.59 (2H, m), 2.77 (2H, m), 2.95 (2H, m), 3.45 (2H, m), 3.66 (2H, s), 6.16 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.03 (3H, m), 7.23 (3H, m), 7.58 (2H, m), 7.69 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 8.05 (1H, s).

(c) (*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API+): Found 442 (MH^+). $C_{25}H_{26}F_3N_3O$ requires 441.

^1H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.73 (4H, m), 2.59 (2H, m), 2.77 (2H, m), 2.99 (2H, m), 3.45 (2H, m), 3.70 (2H, s), 6.13 (1H, d, J = 15 Hz), 6.56 (1H, m), 6.66 (1H, m), 7.15 (1H, d, J = 8Hz), 7.26 (3H, m), 7.39 (2H, m), 7.70 (2H, m), 8.26 (1H, m).

(d) (*E*)-6-Cyano-2-(4-(3-(5-indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API+): Found 399 (MH^+). $C_{25}H_{26}N_4O$ requires 398.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$+CD_3OD) δ 1.66 (4H, m), 2.55 (2H, m), 2.78 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 2.95 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 3.36 (2H, m), 3.66 (2H, s), 5.80 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.50 (1H, d, J = 3 Hz), 7.14 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.23 (2H, m), 7.49 (3H, m), 7.67 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.71 (1H, s).

(e) (*E*)-6-Cyano-2-(4-(3-(5-benzimidazolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 400 (MH^+). $C_{24}H_{25}N_5O$ requires 399.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$ + CD_3OD) δ: 1.75 (4H, m), 2.65 (2H, m), 2.92 (2H, m), 3.07 (2H, m), 3.48 (2H, m), 3.80 (2H, s), 6.04 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.26 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.49 (3H, m), 7.70 (1H, m), 7.78 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.85 (1H, m), 8.16 (1H, s).

(f) (*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(2-naphthyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 463 (MH^+). $C_{26}H_{27}{}^{79}BrN_2O$ requires 462.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.73 (4H, m), 2.63 (2H, m), 2.78 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 2.95 (2H, t, J = 7 Hz), 3.44 (2H, m), 3.63 (2H, s), 6.17 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.94 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.26 (3H, m), 7.39 (1H, m), 7.47 (2H, m), 7.72 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.79 (4H, m).

(g) (*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 452 (MH^+). $C_{24}H_{26}{}^{79}BrN_3O$ requires 451.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$ + CD_3OD) δ: 1.65 (4H, m), 2.52 (2H, m), 2.71 (2H, m), 2.88 (2H, m), 3.37 (2H, m), 3.56 (2H, s), 6.18 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.55 (1H, m), 6.91 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.11 - 7.38 (5H, m), 7.66 (2H, m).

(h) (*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(2-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 468 (MH^+). $C_{25}H_{28}{}^{81}BrN_3O$ requires 467.

NMR (DMSO-d_6) δ: 1.58 (4H, m), 2.43 (3H, s), 2.51 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.67 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.86 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 3.25 (2H, m), 3.55 (2H, s), 6.21 (1H, s), 6.53 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.08 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.32 (4H, m), 7.52 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.61 (1H, s), 8.05 (1H, t, J = 5 Hz), 11.15 (1H, s).

(i) (*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(6-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 454 (MH$^+$). $C_{24}H_{26}{}^{81}BrN_3O$ requires 453.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.71 (2H, m), 1.86 (2H, m), 2.57 (2H, m), 2.75 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.95 (2H, m), 3.42 (2H, m), 3.61 (2H, s), 6.19 (2H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.54 (1H, d, J = 3 Hz), 6.91 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.07 (1H, dd, J = 8, 2 Hz), 7.27 (4H, m), 7.37 (1H, s), 7.59 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.68 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 9.00 (1H, br s).

(j) (*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(5-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 408 (MH$^+$). $C_{24}H_{26}{}^{35}ClN_3O$ requires 407.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.71 (4H, m), 2.57 (2H, m), 2.74 (2H, m), 2.93 (2H, m), 3.41 (2H, m), 3.62 (2H, s), 6.06 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.57 (1H, br s), 6.97 (1H, m), 7.06 (4H, m), 7.22 (1H, m), 7.34 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.62 (1H, s), 7.68 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 8.33 (1H, br s).

(k) (*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(2-naphthylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 419 (MH$^+$). $C_{26}H_{27}{}^{35}ClN_2O$ requires 418.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.73 (4H, m), 2.58 (2H, m), 2.75 (2H, m), 2.94 (2H, m), 3.43 (2H, m), 3.64 (2H, s), 6.16 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.99 (1H, m), 7.14 (2H, m), 7.20 (2H, m), 7.39 (1H, m), 7.49 (2H, m), 7.78 (4H, m).

(l) (*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(3-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 468 (MH$^+$). $C_{25}H_{28}{}^{81}BrN_3O$ requires 467.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.71 (4H, m), 2.32 (3H, s), 2.56 (2H, m), 2.72 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.92 (2H, m), 3.43 (2H, m), 3.59 (2H, s), 6.12 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.86 (1H, br s), 6.91 (1H, d,

J = 9 Hz), 6.97 (1H, s), 7.07 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.25 - 7.30 (3H, m), 7.62 (1H, s), 7.72 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 8.14 (1H, br s).

(m) (*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(6-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 408 (MH$^+$). $C_{24}H_{26}{}^{35}ClN_3O$ requires 407.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.73 (4H, m), 2.57 (2H, m), 2.74 (2H, m), 2.94 (2H, m), 3.41 (2H, m), 3.63 (2H, s), 6.05 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.54 (1H, m), 7.00 (2H, m), 7.14 (2H, m), 7.27 (3H, m), 7.57 (1H, m), 7.67 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 8.42 (1H, m).

(n) (*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-(3-Acetyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-6-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 496 (MH$^+$). $C_{26}H_{28}{}^{81}BrN_3O_2$ requires 495.

^{1}H NMR (DMSO-d_6) δ: 1.56 (4H, m), 2.50 (5H, m), 2.63 (2H, m), 2.82 (2H, m), 3.23 (2H, m), 3.53 (2H, s), 6.68 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.05 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.30 (2H, m), 7.41 (1H, m), 7.51 (1H, s), 7.56 (1H, m), 8.16 (1H, t, J = 5 Hz), 8.40 (2H, m), 12.10 (1H, s).

(o) (*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(6-(2-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 468 (MH$^+$). $C_{25}H_{28}{}^{81}BrN_3O$ requires 467.

^{1}H NMR (DMSO-d_6) δ: 1.50 (4H, m), 2.35 (3H, s), 2.40 (2H, m), 2.60 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.76 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 3.16 (2H, m), 3.45 (2H, s), 6.10 (1H, s), 6.47 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.98 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.10 (1H, m), 7.25 (2H, m), 7.35 (2H, m), 7.42 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.95 (1H, t, J = 5 Hz), 11.06 (1H, s).

(p) (*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(2-methyl)-1H-benzimidazolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 469 (MH$^+$). $C_{24}H_{27}{}^{81}BrN_4O$ requires 468.

^{1}H NMR (DMSO-d_6) δ: 1.60 (4H, m), 2.60 (2H, m), 2.64 (3H, s), 2.75 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.90 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 3.30 (2H, m), 3.60 (2H, s), 6.65 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 7.15 (1H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.45 (3H, m), 7.65 (3H, m), 8.20 (1H, m), 12.50 (1H, s).

(q) (*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(1-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 468 (MH^+). $C_{25}H_{28}{}^{81}BrN_3O$ requires 467.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.69 (4H, m), 2.56 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.72 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.90 (2H, m), 3.38 (2H, m), 3.58 (2H, s), 3.81 (3H, s), 6.27 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz), 6.48 (1H, d, J = 3 Hz), 6.93 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.08 (1H, d, J = 3 Hz), 7.20 - 7.30 (4H, m), 7.45 (1H, br s), 7.63 (1H, s), 7.65 (1H, d, J = 16 Hz).

(r) 2-(4-(4-(4-Acetylphenyl)benzoylamino)butyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 511 (MH^+). $C_{29}H_{29}F_3N_2O_3$ requires 510.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.75 (4H, m), 2.60 (2H, m), 2.66 (3H, s), 2.75 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.93 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 3.52 (2H, m), 3.60 (2H, s), 6.98 (3H, m), 7.38 (1H, m), 7.45 (2H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.65 (2H, d, J = 8 Hz), 7.74 (2H, d, J = 8 Hz), 8.03 (2H, d, J = 8 Hz).

Example 2

6-Methoxy-2-(4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

A mixture of 6-methoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (1.00g, 6.2 mmol), 4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyraldehyde (1.64g, 6.2 mmol), sodium triacetoxyborohydride (1.94g, 9.2 mmol) and dichloromethane (50ml) was stirred at 20°C for 18h. Resulting solution was partitioned between saturated aqueous $NaHCO_3$ (50ml) and dichloromethane (3 x 50ml). Combined organic extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give a solid. Trituration with 1:1 dichloromethane - ether gave the title compound (0.80g, 32%).

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 415 (MH^+). $C_{27}H_{30}N_2O_2$ requires 414.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.78 (4H, m), 2.59 (2H, m), 2.72 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.87 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 3.51 (2H, m), 3.55 (2H, s), 3.74 (3H, s), 6.61 (1H, dd, J = 2 Hz), 6.70 (1H, dd, J = 9, 2 Hz), 6.90 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.30 - 7.50 (5H, m), 7.55 (2H, m), 7.68 (3H, m).

Example 3

6-Hydroxy-2-(4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

A mixture of 6-methoxy-2-(4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (1.18g, 2.8 mmol) and dichloromethane (50ml) was treated dropwise with a solution of boron tribromide in dichloromethane (1M; 8.4 ml). The mixture was stirred at 20°C for 18h, then poured into a mixture of ice (100g) and .880 ammonia (100ml). Resulting mixture was extracted with dichloromethane (3 x 50ml) and the combined extracts were dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo*. The residue was triturated with ether to give the title compound (0.86g, 77%) as a yellow solid.

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 401 (MH^+). $C_{26}H_{28}N_2O_2$ requires 400.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.74 (4H, m), 2.54 (2H, m), 2.63 - 2.80 (4H, m), 3.50 (5H, m), 6.50 (1H, d, J = 2 Hz), 6.63 (1H, dd, J = 9, 2 Hz), 6.80 (1H, d, J = 9 Hz), 7.30 - 7.66 (8H, m), 7.70 (2H, d, J = 9 Hz).

Example 4

2-(4-(4-Phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-6-trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

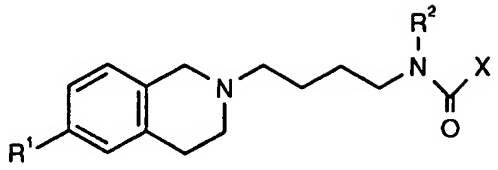
A mixture of 6-hydroxy-2-(4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline (0.41g, 1.0 mmol), triethylamine (0.14ml; 1.0 mmol) and *N*-phenyltrifluoromethylsulfonimide (0.43g, 1.2 mmol) in dichloromethane (15ml) was stirred at 20°C for 18h. The resulting solution was washed with water (2 x 10ml) and brine (20ml), then dried (Na_2SO_4) and evaporated *in vacuo* to give an oil. Chromatography on silica with 20 - 80% ethyl acetate - pentane gradient elution gave the title compound (0.22g, 42%) as a solid.

Mass spectrum (API$^+$): Found 533 (MH^+). $C_{27}H_{27}F_3N_2O_4S$ requires 532.

^{1}H NMR ($CDCl_3$) δ: 1.75 (4H, m), 2.61 (2H, m), 2.75 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 2.94 (2H, t, J = 6 Hz), 3.53 (2H, m), 3.63 (2H, s), 7.00 (4H, m), 7.32 - 7.63 (7H, m), 7.74 (2H, d, J = 9 Hz).

Claims :

1. A compound of formula (I) :



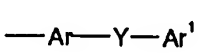
Formula (I)

wherein:

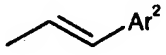
R^1 represents a substituent selected from: a hydrogen or halogen atom; a hydroxy, cyano, nitro, trifluoromethyl, trifluoromethoxy, trifluoromethanesulfonyloxy, pentafluoroethyl, C_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkoxy, arylC_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkylthio, C_{1-4}alkoxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-6}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkoxy, C_{1-4}alkanoyl, C_{1-4}alkoxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonyloxy, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, arylsulphonyl, arylsulphonyloxy, arylsulphonylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonamido, C_{1-4}alkylamido, C_{1-4}alkylsulphonamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkylamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, arylsulphonamido, arylcarboxamido, arylsulphonamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, arylcarboxamidoC_{1-4}alkyl, aroyl, aroylC_{1-4}alkyl, or arylC_{1-4}alkanoyl group; a group $R^3OCO(CH_2)_p$, $R^3CON(R^4)(CH_2)_p$, $R^3R^4NCO(CH_2)_p$ or $R^3R^4NSO_2(CH_2)_p$ where each of R^3 and R^4 independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}alkyl group or R^3R^4 forms part of a C_{3-6}azacycloalkane or C_{3-6}(2-oxo)azacycloalkane ring and p represents zero or an integer from 1 to 4; or a group Ar^3-Z, wherein Ar^3 represents an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aromatic heterocyclic ring and Z represents a bond, O, S , or CH_2;

R^2 represents a hydrogen atom or a C_{1-4}alkyl group;

X represents a group of the formula (a) or (b):



(a)



(b)

wherein

Ar and Ar^1 each independently represent an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aromatic heterocyclic ring; and

Y represents a bond, -NHCO-, -CONH-, $-CH_2-$, or $-(CH_2)_mY^1(CH_2)_n-$, wherein Y^1 represents O, S, SO_2, or CO and m and n each represent zero or 1 such that the sum of m+n is zero or 1;

Ar^2 represents an optionally substituted phenyl ring or an optionally substituted 5- or 6- membered aromatic heterocyclic ring; or an optionally substituted bicyclic ring system;

and salts thereof.

2. A compound according to claim 1 wherein q represents 1.

3. A compound of formula (I) which is:

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(2-Naphthyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Benzimidazolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-Indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-6-trifluoromethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Cyano-2-(4-(3-(5-indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Cyano-2-(4-(3-(5-benzimidazolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(2-naphthyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-indolyl)propenoyl)aminobutyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(2-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(6-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(5-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(2-naphthylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(3-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Chloro-2-(4-(3-(6-indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-2-(4-(3-(5-(3-Acetyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-6-bromo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(6-(2-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

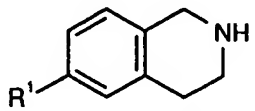
(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(2-methyl)-1H-benzimidazolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

(*E*)-6-Bromo-2-(4-(3-(5-(1-methyl)indolylpropenoyl)amino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

2-(4-(4-(4-Acetylphenyl)benzoylamino)butyl)-6-trifluoromethoxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline

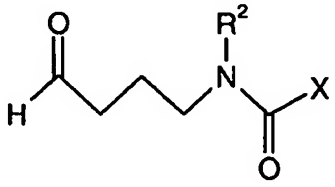
6-Methoxy-2-(4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline
6-Hydroxy-2-(4-(4-phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline
2-(4-(4-Phenylbenzoylamino)butyl)-6-trifluoromethylsulfonyloxy-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinoline
or a salt thereof.

4. A process for preparing a compound of formula (I) or a salt thereof as defined in any of claims 1 to 3 which process comprises:
(a) reacting a compound of formula (II):



Formula (II)

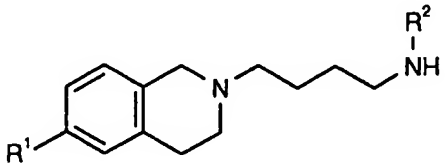
wherein R^1 and q are as hereinbefore defined;
with a compound of formula (III):



Formula (III)

wherein R^2 and X are as hereinbefore defined;

(b) reaction of a compound of formula (IV):



Formula (IV)

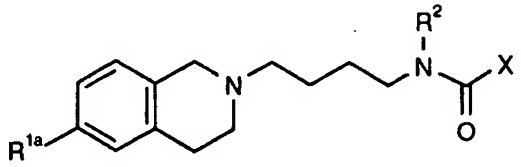
wherein R^1 and R^2 are as hereinbefore defined;
with a compound of formula (V):

XCOL

Formula (V)

wherein X is as hereinbefore defined and L is a halogen atom or the residue of an activated ester;

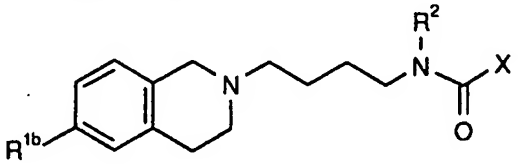
(c) to prepare a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 is Ar^3-Z and Z is a bond, reacting a compound of formula (VI):



Formula (VI)

wherein R^{1a} represents a group W wherein W is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group, or W is a group M selected from a boron derivative or a metal function with a compound Ar^3-W^1, wherein W^1 is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group when W is a group M or W^1 is a group M when W is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group;

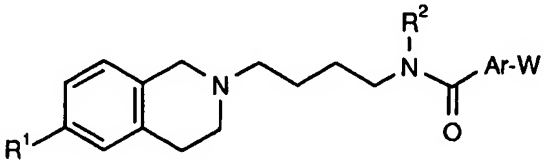
(d) to prepare a compound of formula (I) wherein R^1 is Ar^3-Z and Z is O or S, reacting a compound of formula (VII):



Formula (VII)

wherein R^{1b} represents a group ZH; with a reagent serving to introduce the group Ar^3;

(e) to prepare a compound of formula (I) where X represents the group -Ar-Y-Ar^1 and Y is a bond, reaction of a compound of formula (VIII):



Formula (VIII)

wherein R^1, R^2, Ar and W are as hereinbefore defined, with a compound Ar^1-W^1, wherein W^1 is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group when W is a

group M, or W^1 is a group M when W is a halogen atom or a trifluoromethylsulphonyloxy group.

(f) interconversion of one compound of formula (I) to a different compound of formula (I);

and optionally thereafter forming a salt of formula (I).

5. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof and a physiologically acceptable carrier therefor.

6. The use of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof in the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment of a condition which requires modulation of a dopamine receptor.

7. Use according to claim 6 wherein the dopamine receptor is a dopamine D_3 receptor.

8. Use according to claim 6 or claim 7 wherein a dopamine antagonist is required.

9. Use according to any of claims 6 to 8 wherein the condition is a psychotic condition.

10. A method of treating a condition which requires modulation of a dopamine receptor which comprises administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as claimed in claim 1 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Im dional Application No
PCT/EP 98/02582

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 C07D217/04 C07D401/12 A61K31/47

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 C07D A61K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 96 02246 A (BASF AG) 1 February 1996 see the whole document ---	1,5-10
A	US 5 294 621 A (RUSSELL RONALD K) 15 March 1994 cited in the application see the whole document ---	1,5-10
A	EP 0 300 865 A (SYNTHELABO) 25 January 1989 see the whole document --- -/--	1,5-10

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
19 August 1998	01/09/1998

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Henry, J

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Int tional Application No
PCT/EP 98/02582

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication,where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JERZY L.MOKROSZ ET AL: "8-'4-'2-(1,2,3,4-tetrahydroisoquinolyl)butyl!-8-azaspiro'4,5!decane-7,9-dione: A new 5-HT1a receptor ligand with the same activity profile as buspirone" JOURNAL OF MEDICINAL CHEMISTRY., vol. 39, no. 5, 1996, pages 1125-1129, XP002074949 WASHINGTON US see the whole document ---	1,5-10
P,X	WO 98 06699 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM PLC (GB)) 19 February 1998 see claims ---	1-10
P,X	WO 97 43262 A (SMITHKLINE BEECHAM PLC) 20 November 1997 see claims -----	1-10

2

Form PCT/ISA/210 (continuation of second sheet) (July 1992)

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

...ternational application No.
PCT/EP 98/ 02582

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. [X] Claims Nos.: 10
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
Remark: Although claim 10 is directed to a method of treatment of the human/animal body, the search has been carried out and based on the alleged effects of the compound/composition.

2. [ ] Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. [ ] Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. [ ] As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.

2. [ ] As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

3. [ ] As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. [ ] No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

[ ] The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

[ ] No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.